

THE CITIZEN

Vol. 36, No. 6

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart

April 18, 2007

Stuttgart, Oberammergau and Garmisch, Germany

April brings egg-citement to Stuttgart, Garmisch

*Communities celebrate
Month of Military Child
with series of events,
activities
Pages 6 to 10*



Tweedy Knef (MWR Marketing)

Maria Tortorelli, 3, enjoys the face-painting station at the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Spring Carnival April 7 on Patch Barracks. Youth and families were the focus of several events in Stuttgart and Garmisch throughout April, which is annually designated "Month of the Military Child."

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EUCOM historian honors WWII linguists

Dr. James C. McNaughton, historian for U.S. European Command, publishes a book detailing the little-known contributions of Japanese-American troops in WWII.



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Garmisch youth enjoy Wonderful Wednesdays

Young skiers join parents, teachers and volunteers to celebrate the end of another successful series of "Wonderful Wednesdays" in Garmisch



'It has been a great privilege to wear the uniform'

The following is an excerpt from a farewell message to the Army from Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker, who was replaced by Gen. George Casey as Chief of Staff of the Army April 10.

By Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker

It has been a tremendous privilege and honor to serve alongside you – the Soldiers, civilians and family members – who make the Army the world's preeminent land force, the ultimate instrument of national resolve. ...

Standing on the shoulders of those who have gone before us, the men and women of today's Army have remained focused on our nonnegotiable responsibility to the nation.

For almost 232 years, the Army has never failed the American people, and it never will. We have been resolute in the pursuit of our four overarching strategies - providing relevant and ready landpower; training and equipping Soldiers to serve as warriors and growing adaptive leaders; sustaining the all-volunteer force composed of highly competent Soldiers who are provided a quality of life commensurate with the level of their service; and providing infrastructure and support to enable the force to fulfill its strategic roles and missions. ...

We have created far more capable and strategically deployable brigade-sized formations that are designed to receive and integrate new technologies and equipment as soon as they become available. There has been a significant expansion and enhancement of Army special operations forces. ...

Literally, every aspect of today's Army has been touched by change, with the exception of our enduring values.

During my tenure as Army chief of staff, I have seen our Soldiers continuously demonstrate why they are our greatest strength. Their adherence to the warrior ethos is as inspiring as it is necessary. Their ability to learn and adapt as we fight an ever-changing enemy and transform to meet complex future threats is essential. Their dedication and optimism about our future are contagious. ...

Defeating our enemies requires a shared understanding of the threat and a strategic consensus. It requires a concerted effort, utilizing all elements of power - diplomatic, informational, military and economic. Finally, it requires a

Casey succeeds Schoomaker as Chief of Staff

By J.D. Leipold
Army News Service

Gen. George W. Casey Jr. today became the 36th chief of staff of the Army, assuming the position from Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker.

Casey was the first commander of the Multi-National Force-Iraq, a coalition of more than 30 countries, until February. He had served as Schoomaker's vice chief of staff before deploying to Iraq in 2003 to assume command of the coalition.

Guest speakers at the ceremony included Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates and Acting Secretary of the Army Pete Geren, both of whom praised Schoomaker for his accomplishments and the positive changes he made to the Army after being called from retirement in 2003 to assume the top uniformed Army position.

"Pete Schoomaker is a patriot, a man who has always put the country first and always answered the call to duty," Geren said.

"I'm proud to be taking charge of an Army that's regarded as the best in the world at what it does," Casey said.

"I have watched the men and women of our Army in



Casey

I'm proud to be taking charge of an Army that's regarded as the best in the world at what it does.

Gen. George W. Casey

action in the most demanding combat environment," he continued. "I take great pride in the courage, the confidence and the commitment of our Soldiers and civilians to both the ideals that have made this country great and to making a difference in our world. They epitomize what is best about America.

"They and their families carry heavy burdens in today's war with a hard road ahead, yet their willingness to sacrifice to build a better future for others and to preserve our way of life is a great strength for our nation," he said.

"We are Army Strong and I could not be more proud today to be a Soldier and to stand shoulder-to-shoulder during this time of danger and uncertainty."

For more about Gen. Casey visit www.army.mil.

national commitment to recruit, train, equip and support those in uniform and their families, something that is a matter of priorities, not affordability. ...

When recalled from retired rolls nearly four years ago, I stated that "as an American Soldier, I had never left your ranks." It has been a great privilege to wear the uniform once again. I remain forever humbled by the courage, dedication

and selfless service of those who preceded us and those who remain in service to our Country. I am proud of you. You are indeed Army Strong!

God bless you - the United States Army.

The full text of this message is available online at the Army News Web site (www.army.mil/arnews).

THE CITIZEN

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www.stuttgart.army.mil

April offers opportunity for 'imperfect' parents to connect with their children

By Susan Walden
Commentary

Children are like little tape recorders. They learn by example – and I can prove it.

I was driving my new car down a street, when another driver turned in front of me almost causing an accident. I braked and muttered an obscenity, forgetting that my 4-year-old little tape recorder was listening to every word.

Unfortunately, a few days later Murphy's Law #27 (when you have a new car, the birds and crazy drivers come out of the woodwork) kicked in again.

Another driver almost hit me, but this time I restrained myself and didn't yell a four-letter word ... my son did. I was absolutely appalled.

"Son, where on Earth did you hear that word?"

He said, "From you Mom. Aren't you supposed to say that when we're going to get in an accident?"

I told him never to say that horrible word again and I admitted to him that I was wrong to say that word. I explained that moms and dads aren't perfect and we make mistakes too.

I was under stress because we were in the middle of moving and my husband had moved three hours away from us to start another job.

Then I did something that really surprised my son. I put myself in time-out when we got home.

I sat in the corner of our hallway for five minutes. (If I did the age-to-minute time-out ratio I'd still be sitting in the chair).

We both learned something that day.

April is the Month of the Military Child and Child Abuse Prevention Month. It's a special time to reflect on how unique military families are, how we can improve on our parenting skills and our relationships with our children.

Military children endure a lot of changes and stress from

More about local children

Military children in Stuttgart & Garmisch have been busy on the slopes, in the classroom and in a wide range of other locales this month. For more information see pages 6-11 and 16.

deployment, parental separations, moves and long absences from other family members. Parents need to foster an environment that provides security in the face of these challenges, as well as opportunities to grow, learn and thrive.

Most importantly, we need to tell ourselves and our children that we aren't perfect and that we make mistakes.

There's no such thing as a perfect child, parent or family.

Parents can visit Army Community Service and pick up useful pamphlets about helping children cope with change, how parents can handle stress and more.

I picked up a great refrigerator magnet from ACS compiled by members of the Family Advocacy Program called "101 Ways To Praise Your Child," which I use daily.

Here are a few excerpts from the magnet:

- Wow!
- Way to go!
- You're special!
- Good job!
- You mean the world to me!
- Awesome!
- You make me happy!

Sometimes we forget that a little praise goes a long way – especially when we really mean it.

This commentary originally appeared online at www.army.mil/arnews.

EUCOM hosts Inspectors General for two-day conference in Stuttgart

Story & photo by Tech. Sgt.
Devin L. Fisher
U.S. European Command
Public Affairs Office

Building an inspector general network of knowledge, cooperation and coordination was the focus of the U.S. European Command IG Conference held in Stuttgart April 3 and 4.

Titled "Getting to Know Your Fellow IGs," the first EUCOM IG conference held in five years had more than 30 IG professionals from the European theater and the U.S. exchanging business cards and handshakes.

The purpose of the IG program is to help individuals, thereby helping the system as a whole, said Army Col. Mike Anderson, the European Command Inspector General. "But if you don't know your fellow IGs [as was the case prior to this conference], you can't put the request for assistance in the right [IG] hands. 'Knowing which command has the capability to remedy a problem is invaluable,'" he said.

For example, if an IG receives a request for assistance concerning medical care at their base, they now know the request should be forwarded to their counterparts at the European Regional Medical Command, which oversees all medical care in the region.

The role of the IG is to act as the commander's "eyes, ears and conscience" as they report on the discipline, morale, efficiency, and readiness of the command - to include service members, their families and Department of Defense civilians, Anderson said.

IGs from as far away as Washington agree the new lines of support are irreplaceable.

"You're simply not in touch [with the issues] unless you get to where the rubber meets the road," said Stan Meyer, from the Department of Defense Inspector General office. "Learning about what's going on in the European theater and knowing you can now exchange e-mails and phone calls with your peers is a tremendous benefit."

Air Force Maj. Craig McCuin, chief of the U.S. Air Forces in Europe Complaints and Inquiries Division, says he now has a network of names he can turn to for advice and experience.

He noted this is a vital resource because his office receives a wide range of inquiries from airmen stationed throughout the European theater.

The conference featured "lessons learned and best practice" briefings by IGs from each of the component commanders throughout Europe (U.S. Army, Europe; U.S. Naval Forces Europe; and U.S. Air Forces Europe) as well as the Department of Defense and the Joint Staff IGs from Washington D.C.

"It's important to know you are not alone," Anderson said.



U.S. European Command Inspector General Army Col. Mike Anderson addresses more than 30 IG professionals during the EUCOM IG Conference. The first EUCOM IG conference in five years focused on establishing a network of knowledge, cooperation and coordination.

IG CONTACT INFO

Depending upon the nature of their issue, individuals who desire assistance from an IG in the Stuttgart and Garmisch will deal with one of the following offices:

USAG Stuttgart & USAG Garmisch Inspector General's Office

- IG – Maj. Mark Kurowski
- Assistant IG – Sgt. 1st Class Bonita Owens
- Location – Kelley Barracks, Building #3313
- Phone – 421-2841/civ. 0711-729-2841

U.S. European Command IG's Office

- IG – Col. Mike Anderson
- Deputy IG – Mr. Victor Jarrett
- Location – Patch Barracks, Building #2304
- Phone – 430-8357/civ. 0711-680-8357

"There are other IGs out there dealing with similar issues that are a tremendous resource."

Another five years won't pass before the next European Command IG conference. Next year's conference, tentatively slated for early April, will be held at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, hosted by USAFE IG.

For more about EUCOM visit www.eucom.mil.

NCA accreditation team to visit PHS

Story by Brandon Beach

A team from the North Central Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement will visit Patch High School April 24 to 26.

The visit coincides with NCA's five-year cycle on school improvement. The team last visited PHS in 2002. The school is currently up for re-accreditation this year.

"It's a big visit that only happens every five years," said Susan Page, the school's principal. "Our kids

have made huge strides in language arts and score in the top percentile in TerraNova tests."

To become a member of NCA, a school must meet all NCA standards, conduct a self-study, and adopt a model of school improvement.

In September 2006, PHS established a School Improvement Process (SIP) committee to draft a series of performance goals, with emphasis on problem-solving and organizational skills.

Following the 3-day visit, the team will host an outbrief in the Fo-

rum with PHS faculty, members of the school advisory council and garrison representatives.

Excerpts from the team's final report will be made available in future Citizen editions.

NCA is a non-profit organization that reviews over 8,000 stateside and DoDDS overseas schools.

A NCA team is scheduled to visit Patch Elementary School at the end of the month.

For more about NCA visit www.ncacasi.org.

News & Notes

Community Housing Info Fairs

The Stuttgart Military Housing Office will conduct Information Fairs on the following locations and dates:

- **Panzer Kaserne** – April 21, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., in the gazebo next to building 3111.
- **Patch Barracks** – April 28, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., next to building 2512.
- **Kelley Barracks** – May 5, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the open field entering Vesta Strasse.
- **Robinson Barracks** – May 12, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., in the gazebo next to the Community Club.

Bring the kids and enjoy lunch on us! Meet the members of your USAG Stuttgart Housing team and hear about projects and changes affecting your neighborhood.

For details call 431-2238/ civ. 07031-15-2238

SKIES Open House

The School of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills is hosting an Open House April 20, 3 to 4 p.m., in the Patch Youth Services building.

SKIES instructors will be on hand to talk about their programs and to let families know what type of workshops and special classes will be offered during the summer.

For details call 430-5606/civ. 0711-680-5606.

Summer Hire Registrations

Applications for the 2007 Summer Hire Program will be accepted until May 11. This program, which runs from June 25 to August 3, is open to family members between the ages of 14 and 22 years old. Jobs are available in the areas of clerical, labor, and child development work.

A web-based employment application, detailed information and the required in-processing forms are all available at Summer Hire Program Web page: <http://cpolrhp.belvoir.army.mil/eur/staffing/summerhire/default.htm>.

Summer Hire Program in-processing packets must be completed and turned in to the Stuttgart CPAC office no more than eight days after applicants submit their web-based resume. For more information, e-mail oscar.bocanegra@us.army.mil.

Free, Reduced School Lunches

The Department of Defense Education Activity is encouraging families of children attending overseas schools to reapply for free and reduced price school lunches.

Earlier this year, DoDEA requested an increase in the reimbursement rate USDA provides for school lunches. The USDA approved the request and also authorized the use of the Alaska Income Eligibility Guidelines to qualify families for the program.

As a result, more families may now qualify.

For more information contact your child's school or visit www.stuttgart.army.mil.

Free tax help on Kelley Barracks

The Stuttgart Tax Center is still open for business Mondays to Fridays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Walk-in service is available, but individuals with complex returns or issues are advised to make an appointment.

For more information call 421-4588/civ. 0711-729-4588 or e-mail michael.ryan.watts@eur.army.mil.

Honoring Stuttgart's volunteers

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart invites all community members to honor our community volunteers at the annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony April 27, 11 a.m., in the Panzer Special Events Center.

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart strives to set the standards that make people and units say, "I'm glad I live here." And nowhere is this tradition of selfless service more evident than among our community's volunteers.

For more about the recognition program -- or to learn about the many volunteer opportunities available in Stuttgart -- call 431-3363/civ. 07031-15-3363 or e-mail kelly.measells@eur.army.mil.

National Alcohol Screening Day

April is Alcohol Awareness Month, and in the spirit of recognition, Army Substance Abuse Program, with support from the Patch Medical Clinic, will sponsor National Alcohol Screening Day April 24, from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

The program is designed to provide screening, education and outreach.

For more information, call the USAG Stuttgart Army Substance Abuse Program Prevention Coordinator at 431-2530/civ. 07031-15-2530.

Holocaust victims from Stuttgart memorialized during Yom Hashoah ceremony on Stuttgart Army Airfield

Story & photo by Tech. Sgt. Devin L. Fisher
U.S. European Command Public Affairs Office

A survivor of seven Nazi labor and concentration camps made good on a promise he made years ago to fellow prisoners when he gave the closing prayer at a Holocaust mass grave here April 15.

Benjamin Gelhorn, 86, said he was the “most happiest man” to give the Kaddish prayer at the placement of gravestones ceremony for 34 Jewish victims at the former World War II forced labor camp known as KZ (concentration camp) Echterdingen.

“The Lord gave me the power to be here in 2007 and to make the Kaddish (prayer) for these people,” Gelhorn said. “I’m really happy I’m alive.”

The 86-year old, who received his “142906” tattoo at the Auschwitz camp in Poland, said there was a pact among the laborers that if one of them was alive they would give the final prayer at “the real funeral.”

The remains of 34 Jewish forced laborers were discovered on the U.S. airfield in September 2005 during a construction project to upgrade the access control point. The remains were re-interred Dec. 15, 2005, during a ceremony attended by Rabbis from many countries, including Israel.

On International Holocaust Remembrance Day, or Yom HaShoa, the gravestones of the unidentified victims were dedicated according to Jewish tradition.

In all, 211 Jewish prisoners died at this camp during the winter of 1944 to 1945.

The solemn ceremony concluded as more than 200 mourners participated in the Jewish tradition of placing stones on the gravestones. Gelhorn, who spent three months at the KZ Echterdingen camp in 1939, placed a stone from the former Buchenwald Concentration Camp in east-central Germany, where he was liberated by U.S. forces in April 1945.

The ceremony was arranged by the Israelite Religious Community of Württemberg (IRCW) and supported by the State Ministry of Baden-Württemberg and the Filderstadt and Leinfelden-Echterdingen communities.

Unveiled to the public for the first time, each

grave marker features the Star of David on top and a Hebrew inscription on the bottom. The middle of the gravestones is blank, because the identities of these victims are unknown.

Located just inside the airfield entrance, the Holocaust mass grave will serve as a reminder to U.S. troops “of our enduring mandate to protect freedom and democracy” and ensure that future generations will live in peace, said Army Brig. Gen. William C. Mayville, U.S. European Command Deputy Director of Operations.

Mayville said it is fitting that a representative of the American community – a community that has lived in partnership with its German hosts for more than 60 years – be present at this observance. He said the partnership is built upon common values, a belief in democratic principles, and renewed optimism for a better world.

“United under NATO, the militaries of our two great nations stand steadfast in the defense of freedom, democracy and the sovereignty of our friends and allies,” Mayville said. “We confront willingly those that do not recognize international law, international norms of behavior, and who would gladly choose to overthrow the ideals of democracy by terror or intimidation.”

While this event provides “final closure” for the victims, it marks the beginning of a “long-term, positive partnership” between the U.S. military and the Israelite Religious Community of Württemberg, noted Dr. Stephen Cochrane, U.S. Forces Liaison Officer, Baden-Württemberg.

Cochrane, who worked the specifics of the memorial ceremony in close coordination with the State Ministry and IRCW, said the U.S. forces now share in the responsibility of caring for the gravesite.

He said the U.S. now has the role to ensure the deceased receive the proper respect and are “left alone and have permanent, eternal peace.”

The Jewish community is pleased the gravesite will be protected and that the IRCW will have control of access in coordination with the U.S. forces, Cochrane added.



Survivor of seven Nazi concentration and labor camps Benjamin Gelhorn wipes away tears during the April 15 placement of gravestones ceremony for 34 Jewish forced laborers whose remains were found here in September 2005. Gelhorn, 86, made good on a promise he made years ago to fellow prisoners when he gave the closing prayer at the Holocaust mass grave.

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart

Days of Remembrance Ceremony

April 24 – 11 a.m.
Kelley Barracks Community Club

— Guest Speaker —
Chaplain (COL) Jacob Goldstein

For more information:
DSN 421-2892 / CIV 0711-680-2892

Dual-military couples may owe debt to government for life insurance premiums

By Capt. Mike Watts
Stuttgart Law Center

Attention married dual-military service members: If you have not filed paperwork to opt out of a life insurance program for your spouse, you may have unintentionally incurred a debt to the U.S. government.

Background

Since Nov. 1, 2001, spouses of servicemembers automatically have \$100,000 of life insurance under the Family Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance program. Much like any life insurance, the premiums for this coverage will vary based upon the spouse's age. These premiums are due unless the service member opts out of the coverage in writing.

Because many dual military couples have not had the premiums deducted and have not opted out, they have been receiving life insurance they have not paid for.

This has resulted in these dual military couples incurring a significant debt to the government.

The Army has recently implemented guidance to prevent this in the future. Effective immediately, all Servicemembers must enroll all family members in Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System.

This includes a spouse who is also a military member, even though that spouse is already enrolled in DEERS in his or her own right as a military member. Commands will conduct 100-percent reviews of FSGLI status.

Do you owe?

All married service members should review their Leave and Earning Statement to see if they are being charged the premium for the FSGLI.

Many service members have reported that they were unaware that they had the coverage and that the premiums were being deducted from their pay.

Under FSGLI, a spouse is automatically covered and premiums are owed unless the Servicemember expressly declines coverage.

Reserve component service members need to pay particular attention to potential problems. Because of frequent changes from drilling to mobilization and back, RC service members should also verify their spouse's FSGLI status every time they change status.

Many dual-military couples have had the coverage but have not had the premiums deducted from their pay.

DoD regulations require both spouses to register each other in DEERS. Once a service member enrolls his or her

spouse in DEERS, the military pay systems will automatically begin deducting premiums from that service member's pay, but coverage may be declined.

A service member must file SGLV Form 8286A at their supporting personnel office. Retroactive or back-dated declinations are not acceptable.

The registration in DEERS will also identify those service members who owe for back premiums. Each married soldier who was not paying FSGLI premiums, and has not declined coverage in writing (or cannot prove they have previously declined by providing a copy of their signed declination statement) owes back premiums.

This includes service members who were married after the effective date of the FSGLI program (November 1, 2001) who are no longer married, but whose spouses were not affirmatively disenrolled while they were married.

Collections to start soon

DFAS will soon begin the process of collection of back premiums.

Married service members should take immediate steps to ensure their FSGLI coverage is updated because delaying spousal enrollment will allow additional unpaid premiums to accumulate and the service member's debt to increase.

Collection of premiums owed will be accomplished by DFAS as service members with unregistered spouses are identified and enrolled in DEERS and will be prorated.

Servicemembers may request waiver and remission of indebtedness for back premiums by filing a DD form 2789 with their servicing finance office prior to 5 July 2007.

The Servicemembers must submit the waiver through their servicing finance office; waiver requests sent directly to DFAS will not be acted upon. Submitting this action does not guarantee past due premiums will be waived.

The Servicemembers is still ultimately responsible for paying any past due premiums unless formally relieved of responsibility by DFAS-Denver.

The bottom line is this: if you are a dual military couple or activate reservist, speak to your finance officer immediately.

You may either decline the coverage or register your spouse in DEERS and pay the premiums, but odds are that you are going to owe the government for back premiums.

For more information call the Stuttgart Law Center at 421-4152/civ. 0711-729-4152 or e-mail michael.ryan.watts@eur.army.mil.

Customs Office clarifies rules for home-based businesses

By Robert Szostek
Customs Public Affairs Office

A home-based business can offer many possibilities, but whatever your trade, you have to follow the home-based business rules.

The main thing to remember is that you cannot use your U.S. registered vehicle, the Army Post Office, the PX/BX, commissary or the tax relief program for your business.

- The first point is that **U.S. Forces plated vehicles are for your personal use only**. Using one as part of a business is illegal. "An example would be if you used your USAREUR-plated van to deliver goods to customers or pick items up from suppliers," said David Kuik, acting chief of services, USAREUR Customs Executive Agency, in Mannheim, Germany. Register your business vehicle in the German system, he advised.

- The second point is that **packages that you send or receive for your business must go through an express shipping company or the German postal service**.

The APO system is a privilege for your personal use only. Using it to send or receive business wares is not allowed.

- Third, you must declare any goods intended for resale to German Customs when you bring them into the country. **Goods sold in the post or base exchange, AAFES catalog and commissary are tax-free so you cannot buy anything there for your business either**. Using your VAT form to support your business is off-limits too.

"Military regulations say that when people perform services or sell goods on a frequent and recurring basis, they are operating a home-based business," Kuik stated. He added that you are not running a business if you sell only personal items infrequently.

So are you running a business? Do you need a German tax number or even a U.S. tax ID? "To answer these and other questions, talk to your installation commercial affairs office to be sure where you stand," Kuik concluded.

Additional guidance on home-based businesses may be found in Army in Europe Regulation 210-70 or USAFE Instruction 211-16 (On-Post Commercial Solicitation).

For more information about customs-related matters call the U.S. Forces Customs Stuttgart Field Office at 431-2731/civ. 07031-15-2731.

Free Tax Assistance

Stuttgart Tax Center

Kelley Barracks (Building 3312)
Mondays to Fridays - 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
DSN 421-4152 / CIV 0711-729-4152

To make an appointment in Garmisch call
Pamela Bossom @ DSN 440-2527 / CIV 08821-750-2527

EUCOM in Stuttgart: 40 years and counting

Command headquarters moved to Patch Barracks in March 1967, following 'fast relocation' from France

By Dr. James C. McNaughton
U.S. European Command

Just over 40 years ago, a new headquarters came to Stuttgart. From 1950 until 1967 Patch Barracks had been home to Seventh Army, which boasted the combat power of two heavy corps, five divisions and numerous support units. All this changed in 1967 when U.S. European Command moved from Paris, France, to Patch Barracks, which forced Seventh Army to move to Heidelberg.

Causes for these moves can be traced back to some diplomatic history. The 1960s was a time of tension within the Atlantic Alliance. The United States and France were at loggerheads over America's leadership within NATO and America's growing involvement in Vietnam, a former French colony.

President Charles de Gaulle flexed his muscles in April 1966 by pulling France out of the NATO integrated military command structure and ordering the United States and NATO to remove all troops and headquarters from French soil by March 31, 1967.

'Get your hat and go'

In private, US President Lyndon B. Johnson "stretched his considerable talent for colorful language," recalled the US Ambassador to NATO. Johnson churlishly instructed his Secretary of State to ask if de Gaulle wanted the US to move American cemeteries out of France as well. (The government of France said no.)

In public, Johnson remained calm, declaring: "When a man asks you to leave his house, you don't argue; you get your hat and go."

With less than twelve months to go, USEUCOM and its service components planned and executed the movement of numerous units and headquarters, 70,000 people (including family members) and 813,000 tons of materiel. The operation was named FRELOC, short for "Fast Relocation."

USEUCOM was fortunate to have two strong leaders, Commander-in-Chief Gen. Lyman L. Lemnitzer, USA, and Deputy Commander-in-Chief Gen. David A. Burchinal, USAF. Both had served in the Pentagon at the highest levels, Lemnitzer as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Burchinal as Director of the Joint Staff.

Lemnitzer worked the NATO dimensions of the moves, while Burchinal handled the US aspects. For both it was the most demanding challenge of their distinguished careers.

Within USEUCOM, the J-4 directorate had day-to-day responsibility for planning and coordinating FRELOC.

A coordinated effort

The components did most of the actual work. Within months US Air Forces Europe (USAFE) vacated five fully operational bases, four active standby bases and dozens of other installations. Most operational air units moved to the United Kingdom, while the 26th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing squeezed into already crowded Ramstein Air Base.

The USAFE move alone cost an estimated \$1.4 billion (all costs converted to today's dollars).

The US Army Communications Zone (COMZEUR), Europe (predecessor of today's 21st Theater Support Command), picked up and moved a vast network of storage depots and lines of communication, including 140,000 short tons of ammunition and 583,000 short tons of other materiel.

Its own headquarters moved from Orleans, France, to Worms, Germany. When FRELOC concluded, Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara called it "a move made with remarkable efficiency and at moderate cost."

In addition to moving troops and materiel, USEUCOM Headquarters had to find a new home for itself. Belgium offered to host NATO and SHAPE headquarters.

But it lacked space for the USEUCOM, which since 1954 had been stationed near SHAPE at Camp des Loges in the suburbs of Paris. The Defense Department quickly decided to move USEUCOM to Stuttgart.

To make room, Seventh Army was given less than six

EUCOM historian gives voice to WWII-era Japanese-American troops

By John J. Kruzal
American Forces Press Service

The U.S. European Command's historian has published a book documenting a group of Japanese-Americans who helped America "fight smart" during World War II.

Dr. James C. McNaughton's "Nisei Linguists: Japanese Americans in the Military Intelligence Service During WWII," is the culmination of two senators' efforts.

Both of Hawaii's U.S. senators – Daniel K. Akaka and fellow World War II veteran Daniel K. Inouye – championed the official Army publication project to recognize the roughly 6,000 Nisei linguists who served and the Military Intelligence Service that trained them.

"I am delighted this project is finally done," Akaka said during a Senate speech here March 19. "For decades after their service, a complete documentation of their exemplary deeds was sorely lacking. Now the heroic work of these translators ... will forever be remembered and honored by future generations."

McNaughton said his book sheds light on what he called an "undiscovered little niche" of history.

"I was pretty familiar with the official historical literature of the Second World War, and there was virtually no mention of them," McNaughton said here during an interview. "Once I got to meet some of these veterans and started doing oral history interviews, (I realized) they're great guys with wonderful stories."

"In 1943, the Army organized a segregated infantry unit called the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and then called for volunteers," he said. "Most people who know about Japanese-American history know about that, but what they don't know is that a quarter of those volunteers were siphoned off into the language training route."



EUCOM Historian James C. McNaughton, left, shares a moment with Diane M. Donovan, U.S. Army Center of Military History senior editor, and Sen. Daniel K. Akaka (D-Hawaii) March 20 in the Russell Senate Office Building.

Eric Lachica/Executive Director, American Coalition for Filipino Veterans, Inc.

This select group of Japanese-Americans learned to interrogate prisoners, intercept messages, translate captured documents and infiltrate enemy lines at the Military Intelligence Service's Language School near San Francisco.

Nisei linguists, McNaughton said, were the Defense Department's "first experiment" in training and using military linguists during a major conflict and the ensuing occupation.

McNaughton said the Army-funded project gives military linguists a sense of their heritage. "It's an honorable tradition, within all the services, going back to the Second World War," he said.

months to find a new home. In December 1966 Seventh Army moved to Heidelberg to merge with Headquarters, US Army Europe.

USEUCOM was given a budget of \$62 million for moving and reestablishing itself. The headquarters economized by using all available military air and ground transportation. USAFE's 322d Air Division used C-130s and C-124s to move 200 tons of files and office equipment.

According to an official report, "in most cases, staff files were released in Paris one afternoon and were available for use by advance personnel in Stuttgart the next afternoon." Another 720 tons moved by military trucks and vans and 100 tons by commercial contractors.

Making a massive move

USEUCOM ceased operation at Camp des Loges on March 14, 1967, and resumed "full normal activity" at Patch Barracks on March 15 with about 740 military and civilian personnel. The Support Operations Task Force Europe (SOTFE), predecessor of today's Special Operations Command Europe (SOCEUR), arrived two months earlier when it relocated from Paris to Panzer Kaserne.

Unlike Seventh Army, USEUCOM was a joint organization. The uniforms of all four services could now be seen on post. The deputy commander-in-chief was US Air Force, as were the J-2, J-4 and J-5. The J-1 and J-3 were Army and the J-6 was a Navy rear admiral.

The new headquarters changed more than the personnel mix. Thousands of family members moved into 866 sets of quarters in six different housing areas.

The Stuttgart Army Air Field received a \$5.5 million upgrade, including more ramp space and a new hangar. Engineers determined that the power supply on Patch Barracks was inadequate and invested in upgrades. They built a three-story command center at a cost of \$18 million (Bldg. 2358), plus an automatic data processing center for \$2 million.

The communications and electronics support package cost over \$25 million. The J-3 operations directorate installed an IBM System/360, a revolutionary new mainframe computer at the time.

On March 15, 1967, USEUCOM completed what a later commander-in-chief, Gen. Andrew J. Goodpaster, USA, called "the largest single peacetime movement of men and materiel that the US military had ever undertaken."

The headquarters had relocated not a moment too soon.

During its first months at Patch Barracks USEUCOM confronted an unexpected war in the Middle East, the Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia, and the growing strains of supporting military operations in another theater in Southeast Asia.

Patch Barracks did not forget Seventh Army, which is remembered in the post's name (Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch was Seventh Army's commander in World War II) and its sports field (Operation Husky was Seventh Army's first operation in Sicily in 1943).

McNaughton is the EUCOM historian. This article and additional information about EUCOM may be accessed online at www.eucom.mil.

Lights ... camera ... action!

Audio visual program fosters creativity, hands-on learning

Story and photo by Brandon Beach

Inside a tiny studio at Garmisch American School April 5, Meshia Lyons adjusts the tilt on her camcorder, squares up the focus and gives Daley Wilhelm the cue: We're live. On the other side of the camera, Wilhelm bundles up some loose papers at a table in the center of the room.

"Welcome to Hillbilly Daily News," says the sixth-grade anchor, flashing a photogenic smile, "now on to our top story."

With robust cameras, advanced video editing tools and some technological savvy, Garmisch students enrolled in the school's audio visual program are learning to tell their "stories" in a variety of creative ways.

"Everything here is hands-on," said Bill Morgan, who teaches three sections of AV per semester to 45 students in grades sixth through eighth.

Students have access to three standard CCD cameras, a high-end Canon GL2, a mini Canon 320X, numerous tripods, moveable studio lights and the latest in iMovie and Final Cut Express.

"We've had to beg, borrow and steal a lot to get to where we are today," said Morgan. "Our PTA has done an outstanding job supporting us."

Classes meet in the school's library. On any given day, students write scripts, film



Daley Wilhelm (left) and Meshia Lyons wrap up their two-minute news spot April 5.

commercials or edit footage on one of five Macintosh computers.

At one of the editing stations, Xiomy Cordero, a seventh-grader, and her team add a slow motion effect to their public service announcement on bullying April 4.

The scene depicts a group of playground "thugs" circled around a helpless "victim," pushing him back and forth like a pinball.

Later the scene cuts to two students walking into Susan Ussery's office, the school's principal.

The message, said Cordero, is to report bullying when it happens, but clarified that incidents at the school, which is located in the picturesque Bavarian Alps, are rare to none.

"I think we had the most fun with all the bloopers," said Cordero, who spooled the

outtakes at the end during the credits.

Students must complete four primary assignments per semester to receive credit: A PSA, commercial, two-minute news show and a video yearbook, which is distributed at the end of the school year.

Last year alone, students compiled over 200 hours of video yearbook footage on four compact discs.

Students have just six working days to complete assignments. There is even a multi-colored flow chart taped to the library's entrance door to remind students where they stand.

"It's a fairly tight schedule they have to work with," said Morgan. "But it mirrors the real world as much as possible."

That real world might get a real audience real soon.

Morgan said that he envisions student projects being eventually aired on Armed Forces Network, an outlet currently used by many DoDDS-Europe high schools.

The goal is for Garmisch students to create a one- to two-minute news panorama of topics relevant to their school.

"Now on to our top story."

To learn more about programs at Garmisch American School visit www.garm-es.eu, dodea.edu or call 440-2611/civ. 08221-760-2611.

Distance education keeps Garmisch students ahead

Story by Brandon Beach

They go to school in Germany and have an Algebra teacher in Colorado Springs. For three students at Garmisch American School, distance education is making sure they stay ahead.

"They are taking an online class for high-school credit," said Susan Ussery, the school's principal, who added, "and they are doing really well."

It's five minutes before noon, and Mary Hickox, an eighth-grader, finishes up her test on quadratics April 4. Seated at one of the computers in the school library, she scans her answers one last time and then hits the send button.

On the receiving end is Al Gallus, her teacher in Colorado Springs. He will wake up, have breakfast and turn on his computer in another time zone, Mountain Standard Time. By 4 p.m. in Garmisch, Hickox will log in to a message center at home and receive her test results, along with comments from Gallus.

"The feedback is very timely," said Hickox, who has been enrolled in the one-year online class since August 2006.

There is no book in this Algebra class. Everything is on the computer screen: Worksheets, tutorials, assignments, quizzes and end-of-semester tests.

At the end of a class period, students fax or email assignments and tests to their teacher a continent away.

Hickox said that she spends up to 20 hours a week just to keep up with the rigors of the course.

"It's hard. I will need to study over spring

break, so I don't fall behind," she said. "The class doesn't always coincide with our breaks here."

For Whitney Sattler, an eighth-grader also enrolled in the program, the biggest shock came on the first day.

"It's like giving you a book and saying, 'Learn this you'll have a quiz tomorrow,'" he said. "I found it stressful at first. You're just sitting there staring at a computer for an hour."

After seven months in the program, he says he doesn't think he can go back to a traditional math class of desks, overheads and chalkboards.

"This is just a quieter atmosphere to learn," he said.

Bill Morgan, a teacher at Garmisch American School and the program's faculty advisor, said the students have quickly adapted to the online learning environment.

"These kids are self starters. They have learned to figure things out on their own," he said. "Not everybody can do this."

This is the first year Garmisch has employed a distance education program of this kind, said Ussery. With only three eighth-grade students eligible to take Algebra, the school didn't have the resources to hire a full-time Algebra teacher.

The course comes from Apex Learning, a stateside publisher of digital coursework for secondary education. They supply the content and the teacher. DoDDS-Europe has contracted with the publisher at no cost to parents.

In addition to Hickox and Sattler, James Gardiner is the third student enrolled in the program.

BIKE CLINIC

**BIKE MAINTENANCE AND SAFETY CLINIC
IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL BIKE MONTH
SATURDAY, 5 MAY
0900 - 1100
PANZER AAFES "MALL FOR ALL"
FREE**

Open to ID cardholders 18 and older. Bring your bikes, ready to ride, and some clean rags.
Sign-up sheet at the Patch Front Desk.
*If there is inclement weather, the clinic will be held inside the mall.
*Optional rides with guides offered at the conclusion of the clinic.

0900 - 1000
Basic Bike Maintenance Clinic (pre-ride safety check, bike and chain lubrication, brake/derailleur adjustment, fixing a flat tire, how to wash/clean a bike). While going through this, participants basically do their own "bike inspection."

1000 - 1100
Basic Bike Handling/Safety (10-15 min clinic on road safety, especially pertaining to Germany/Europe; proper bike fit/clothing), then 30-45 min on bike handling. Bikers will then be instructed in some basic handling drills.
Mountain bikers will also do some handling drills.

Any questions call 430-5386 or Civ 0711-680-5386

AAFES

Celebrating Spring in Stuttgart, Garmisch

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart
Public Affairs Office

The Month of the Military Child, Easter weekend, and the arrival of sunny spring weather combined to give community members in Stuttgart and Garmisch ample reason (and opportunity) to get outside and enjoy themselves on area installations.

Egg-citement on post

Events got underway April 7 as throngs of young ones flocked to Stuttgart's Patch Barracks and Garmisch's Artillery Kaserne, where they scrambled for treasures during each community's traditional egg hunt.

In Stuttgart, the egg-citement took place on Husky Field, where large cordoned-off squares marked age-specific areas for the ovum investigations. U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Commander Col. Kenneth G. Juergens sent each band of hunters onto the field, bravely signaling the start of the hunt before deftly evading the onrushing masses.

In Garmisch, a similar scene took place just outside the Pete Burke Community Center, where community parents cheered on their offspring as they scrambled across the lawn in hot pursuit of treasure-filled plastic eggs.

But eggs weren't the only draw that day. Inside the center, children could get their faces painted, win prizes with the bean bag toss and paint a bunny-shaped picture frame.

Bouncing, Boxing & the Bunny!

After the hunt, Stuttgart residents made the short walk to the Patch Youth Services facility, where arts, crafts, treats, games and a certain large floppy-eared icon awaited for photos.

CYS staffers and community volunteers ran a variety of indoor and outdoor age-appropriate booths.

One of the biggest draws at the Carnival this year was the inflatable boxing ring, where kids engaged in bouts wearing oversized gloves and headgear.

"It was a great event," said Juergens. "Lots of parents came out. It was safely done, and when the community comes out, it's fantastic."



[Above] A Garmisch youth proudly shows his golden egg April 7 during the Easter weekend festivities that took place on Garmisch's Artillery Kaserne.

[Left] Cheyenne Kayla Bateman, age 4, is all smiles as she fills up her Easter bag during Stuttgart's traditional Easter egg hunt April 7 on Patch's Husky Field.

[Below] Leah Pollard, age 5, and her friend make bunny-themed buttons with the help of Child and Youth Services staffers April 7 in the Hub.

[Right] Five-year old Nathan Reynolds raises an oversized boxing glove against his opponent April 7.





Kai Stephens, 9, comes up smiling after taking a spill on Garmisch's final "Wonderful Wednesday" of 2007. More than 120 young skiers participated in the program this year, continuing a decades-only community tradition of hitting the slopes on ten mid-week afternoons.

Volunteer effort ensures Wednesdays remain 'Wonderful' for young skiers in Garmisch

Story & photos by Drew Benson

Thanks to the efforts of a team of community volunteers, winter Wednesdays continue to be wonderful for young skiers in Garmisch.

The U.S. Army Garrison Garmisch Child and Youth Services Sports and Fitness program ended another successful "Wonderful Wednesday" ski program with a race and award banquet March 21.

The participants ran a Giant Slalom format race on the Hausberg ski area, then enjoyed a banquet with instructors, parents and CYS staff at the Edelweiss Lodge & Resort Ski Lodge. About 120 children participated in the program this year.

A community effort

"Wonderful Wednesdays" are a Garmisch tradition that goes back as far as any current residents can remember. Legend has it that the program began in the late 1960s or early 1970s as a way to add a physical education component to the school curriculum.

The ski/snowboard program attracts a wide range of children. The oldest participant in this year's program was 15, and the youngest was three years old.

The students who participate in the program are released from school (the majority attend Garmisch Elementary School) early on ten Wednesdays and are bused to the slopes for an afternoon of ski instruction.

In addition to Wonderful Wednesday, the CYS sports office operates a separate program for younger children called "Super Saturday." The Super Saturday skiers also participated in the March 21 banquet/awards night.

Wonderful Wednesday is more than just ski lessons. It's a healthy lifestyle skill that they can carry with them throughout life.

Maggie Tarr
Child & Youth Services

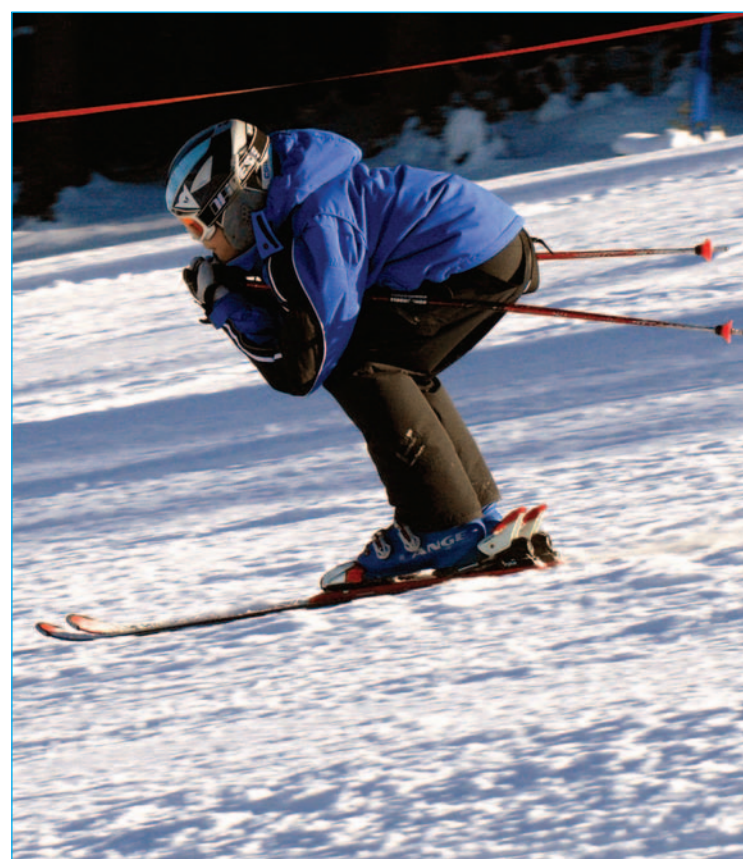
The Wonderful Wednesday lessons are contracted to the Edelweiss Lodge and Resort Ski School and most of the "staff" are trained volunteers from the USAG Garmisch community, said Maggie Tarr, assistant sports director with the Garmisch CYS program.

"We have around 30 to 40 people volunteering from the Garmisch and Oberammergau NATO communities, 29 official instructors and assistants, and various others who help with the logistics involved in transporting and teaching 120 children," Tarr said.

'More than just ski lessons'

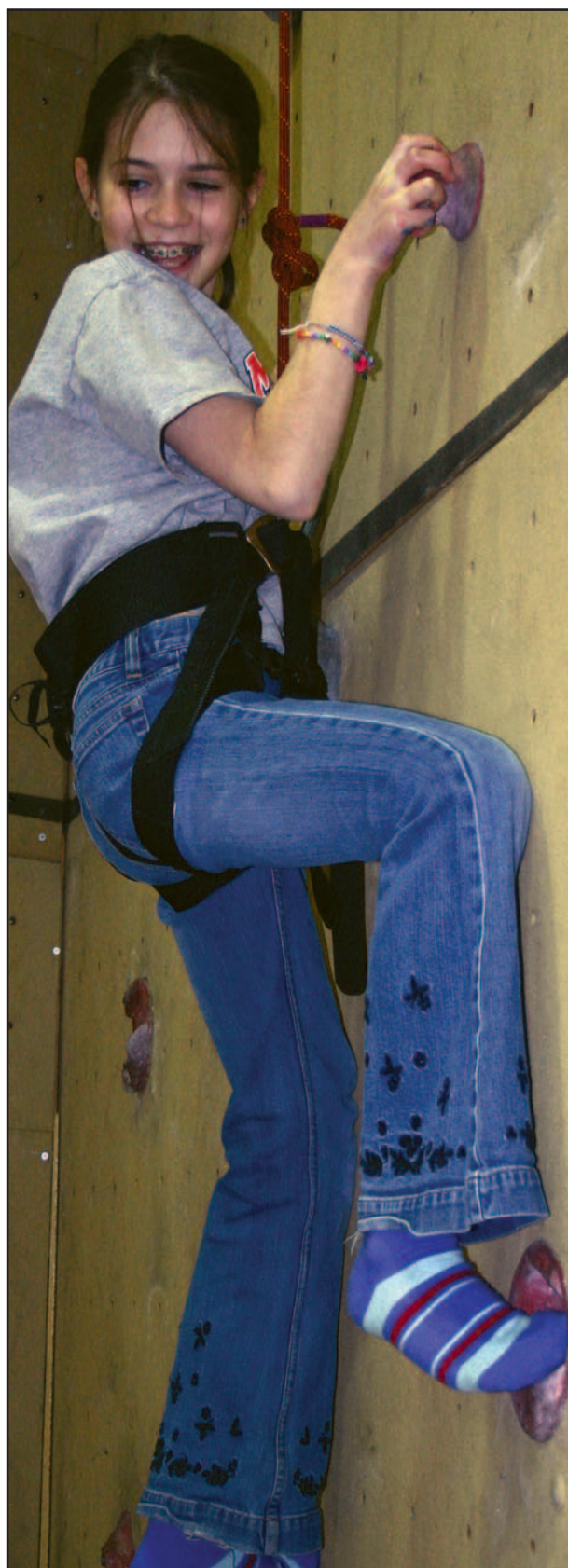
Even though this season brought cost increases – the first in six years – the CYS sports staff anticipates the program remaining strong far into the future. The success of the program has been the willingness of community members to volunteer their time and services, Tarr said, and creative ways to keep the price down.

"[Wonderful Wednesday] is more than just ski lessons," she said. "It's a healthy lifestyle skill that they can carry with them throughout life".



A young "Wonderful Wednesday" skier is crouched and focused on the slopes at the Garmisch's Hausberg ski area. Children from ages 3 to 15 took part in the 2007 program, which was sponsored by the U.S. Army Garrison Garmisch Child and Youth Services Sports and Fitness office.

Girl Scouts scale new heights on Panzer



Tiffany Fowler of Cadette/Senior Troop 056 appears quite happy to have such a great hat.



Kaileigh Ducharme of Junior Troop 026 gets a lesson in self-defense.



Scouts conquer the climbing wall (left) and complete an obstacle course (above).

Story & photos by
Hugh C. McBride

Lest there still be any doubt, a March 24 gathering on Panzer Kaserne should have proved the point once and for all: Girl Scouting is about *much* more than cookies.

Though the ubiquitous fundraiser still play a major role in the 95-year-old organization, the range and types of skills on display at the Panzer Jamboree went far beyond what is required to shill a box of Thin Mints.

"We've got a lot going on here today," said Lisa Beebe, one of the Scouts' adult supervisors.

The afternoon's events, Beebe noted, were designed to encourage the Scouts to develop a wide range of skills and to succeed both as part of a team and individually.

On one side of the fitness center, some Scouts scaled a climbing wall while others leapt, skipped, jumped & crawled their way through an obstacle course.

Walking across the gym floor, a visitor passed a group of Double-Dutch jump-ropers, a game of "Girl Scout Monopoly" (a life-sized board game that was invented by a group of Stuttgart Scouts to review Scout history) and a self-defense class led by a Marine instructor.

Overlooking the activity from the bleachers, craft groups creating personalized jewelry and custom-designed T-shirts.

The March 24 adventure will be expanded upon in a few months, as registration is underway for the Girl Scouts' annual Summer Day

Supply Drive for Fisher House

One of the four fundamental goals of the Girl Scout program involves contributing to the improvement of society.

With that objective in mind Girl Scouts in Stuttgart are collecting supplies for the Landstuhl Fisher House (which provides a "home away from home" for families of service members who are recovering in Landstuhl Regional Medical Center.)

The Scouts will be collecting the following supplies **through May 7:**

- Plastic utensils & styrofoam cups
- Plastic wrap & aluminum foil
- Paper plates, cups & towels
- Napkins & toilet tissue
- Dryer sheets
- Sugar & Splenda packets
- Sponges & SOS pads
- Pledge dry cloths
- Mailing labels for ink-jet printers
- Business cards for ink-jet printers
- Printer cartridges.

Collection sites are located at chapels, Shoppettes and commissaries on all Stuttgart-area installations, and in the AAFES BX/PX on Panzer Kaserne.

For more about the supply drive e-mail peoplesp@eucom.mil

— Hugh C. McBride

Camp Aug. 20 to 24.

Also slated for Panzer, the day camp will feature horseback riding, crafts, camping, outdoor skills and a range of other activities and educational opportunities.

For more about Girl Scouts in Stuttgart e-mail peoplesp@eucom.mil.

For more about the August Summer Day Camp e-mail jackie@jnasca.com.

For general information about Girl Scout programs worldwide visit www.girlscouts.org.

Stuttgart Scout donates Eagle project to SF Association

Story & photo by Maj. David Lile
U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart

Stuttgart Scout Joshua Lile of Troop 324 presented his Eagle Scout Project to the Special Forces Association Dave Takaki April 4.

Lile's project was an outdoor giant chess set constructed at the Garden of Eden at the KD Range complex.

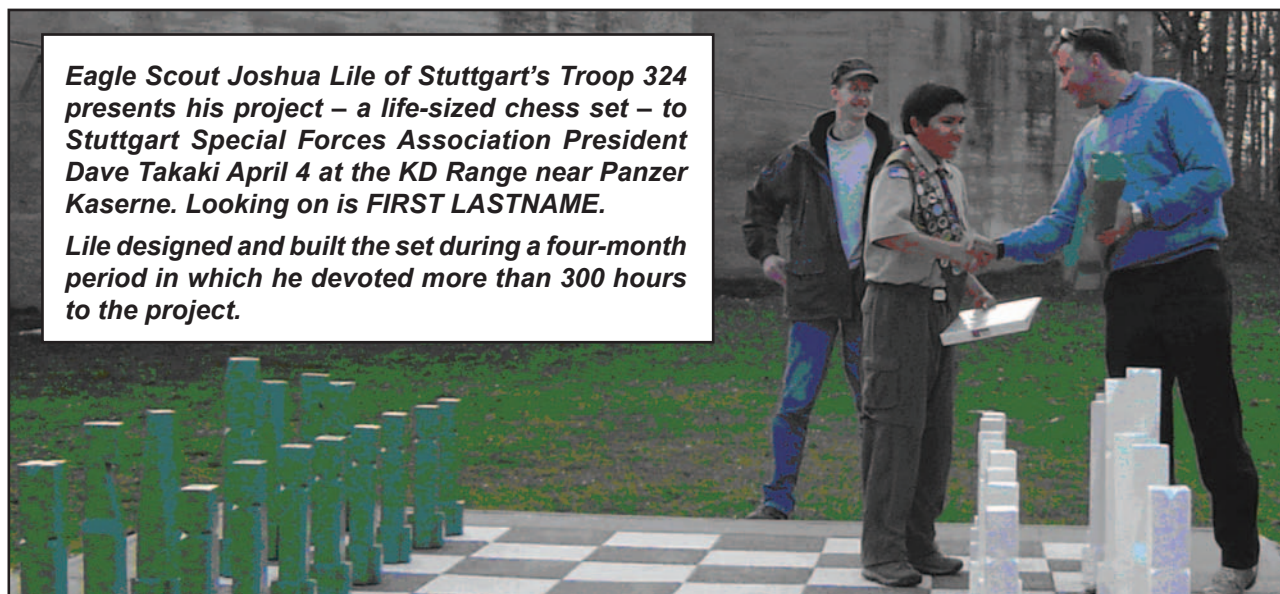
Conceived in May 2006, the project was planned and executed with the help of scouts, soldiers, friends and family members. The project required more than 300 hours to complete over a four month period.

Mr. Takaki noted that this was an excellent example of why there is such a close affiliation between the work of the scouting community and the SF Association.

During the ceremony, Lile presented Mr. Takaki his "king" — not just as an administrative handover but to symbolize the hope that conflict can be resolved in a peaceful fashion.

Eagle Scout Joshua Lile of Stuttgart's Troop 324 presents his project — a life-sized chess set — to Stuttgart Special Forces Association President Dave Takaki April 4 at the KD Range near Panzer Kaserne. Looking on is FIRST LASTNAME.

Lile designed and built the set during a four-month period in which he devoted more than 300 hours to the project.





Wounded Soldier & Family Hotline

CIV 001-800-984-8523

DSN 312-328-0002

wsfsupport@conus.army.mil

Standing beside America's heroes every step of the way.

*Offering Soldiers & family members a way to share concerns on the quality of patient care.
Providing senior Army leaders with visibility on medical issues so resources can be properly allocated.*

Chronic fatigue syndrome can have devastating effects

By Kelly L. Forys
U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion & Preventive Medicine

For Soldiers or their family members who suffer from chronic fatigue syndrome, being tired is a way of life.

CFS is not due to laziness, and it is more than just fatigue – individuals with this disorder have endured six or more months of problems including difficulty with memory and concentration, sore throat, muscle pain, joint pain, and headaches.

Suffering from CFS is similar to having a bad case of the flu that will not go away.

If someone you know or love experiences these symptoms, he or she is not alone.

More than a million Americans are also suffering. CFS affects both men and women, although women are four times more likely to be diagnosed with CFS than men are. CFS most

commonly affects individuals in their 40s and 50s; however, teenagers are also vulnerable.

Perhaps even more devastating than the actual symptoms of CFS are the effects that the symptoms have on an individual's daily life.

Those who feel tired and achy all of the time are less likely to socialize with friends and family, less likely to be productive at work and less likely to be happy with life.

The cause of CFS is not known. As a result, CFS cannot be readily prevented; however, maintaining a healthy lifestyle is always a good suggestion for achieving optimal health.

There is no known cure for CFS; however, medications and lifestyle changes can reduce pain and fatigue.

For more about chronic fatigue or other medical issues contact the Stuttgart Army Health Clinic or Stuttgart Wellness Center (see box below for contact information.)

ASK AN EXPERT

Where can I learn more about health?

Q: Where can I learn more about personal health and wellness in Stuttgart?

This edition's expert:
Terri Tokar
Stuttgart Wellness Center

A: The goal of the Stuttgart Wellness Center is to enable clients to increase control over, and to improve their health. We offer a variety of free programs and resources.

Wednesday is "walk-in-day" at the Wellness Center. Appointments are recommended for other days, and most of our programs require pre-registration.

Our staff includes a director, a nurse educator and a dietitian. Our staff is available to brief your unit or office on any health related topic.

For more information visit the Wellness Center (Patch Barracks, building 3307, 2nd floor), call 430-4073/civ. 0711-680-4073 or e-mail stuttgartwellness@eur.army.mil.

Do you have a question about a policy, procedure or other topic related to life on a U.S. military installation in Stuttgart or Garmisch?

E-mail your query to stuttgartmedia@eur.army.mil, and we will 'Ask An Expert' for you!

HEALTH CARE CORNER

U.S. Army Health Clinic Stuttgart

Hours of Operation

Mon., Tues., Wed. & Fri.: 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Thursdays: 1 to 4 p.m.

Military Sick Call

Mon. to Fri.: 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.
Thursdays, 1 to 2 p.m.

Pharmacy

M, T, W, F: 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Thursdays: 1 to 4 p.m.

Immunizations

Walk-in basis
Closed noon to 1 p.m.

Well Baby Care

Every Tuesday

Laboratory

M, T, W, F: 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Thursdays: 1 to 4 p.m.

Physical Exams

Active-duty only (by appt.)
430-6817/civ. 0711-680-6817

Well Woman Care

Every Wednesday

Appointments

430-8610/civ. 0711-680-8610 or 430-8611/civ. 0711-680-8611
Tricare beneficiaries can also make appointments online.
Visit www.tricareonline.com.

Stuttgart Dental Clinic

Hours of Operation

Mon. to Fri.: 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. & 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Active-Duty Sick Call

Mon. to Fri.: 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.

All Others Sick Call

Mon. to Fri.: 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.

Appointments

430-8626/civ. 0711-680-8626

Garmisch Dental Clinic

Hours of Operation

Mon., Wed & Fri: 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Tue: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. / Thurs: 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Military Sick Call

Mon. to Fri.: 7:30 to 8 a.m.

Appointments

440-3414/civ. 08821-750-3414

Note

In accordance with Army Regulation 40-3, dental services are limited to space-available care for other than active-duty servicemembers

In case of an after-hours emergency call the MP desk to access the on-call patient liaison:
Stuttgart 430-5262/civ. 0711-680-5262 / Garmisch 440-3827/civ. 08821-750-3827

Veterinary Treatment Facility

Hours of Operation

Mon. to Fri.: 8 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Appointments

431-2681/civ. 07031-15-2681

Location

Building 2996, Panzer Kaserne

Note

The facility is unable to see emergency cases. Thus, community members must become familiar with local German veterinarians. Visit the clinic for a list of German veterinarians in the Stuttgart area.

Stuttgart Wellness Center

Hours of Operation

Mon. to Fri.: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Appointments

Call the center at 430-4073/civ. 0711-680-4073

Location

Washington Center, Patch Barracks

Powerlifters flex their muscles in Stuttgart

Story & photos by
Hugh C. McBride

Some of Stuttgart's biggest and baddest got together for an afternoon of heavy lifting March 24 in the Kelley Barracks Fitness Center.

Six competitors hoisted more than 5000 lbs. during U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart's inaugural Powerlifting Tournament, which was sponsored by the garrison's Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation Sports and Fitness Office.

"We had a great group of lifters and an intense competition," said Steve Sanders, who coordinated the event. "I hope this event will encourage other lifters in the community to come out and compete in our next tournament."

For more about powerlifting in Stuttgart call Sanders at 421-4512/civ. 0711-680-4512.



[Above] Competitors Andrew Steele, William Sever, Andrew Wimberly, Beth Toops, Brian Broussard and Eric Farmer gather with their awards at the end of the March 24 Powerlifting Tournament in the Kelley Barracks Fitness Center.

[Right] Brian Broussard, who competed in the 110-kilogram category, attempts his final deadlift. Broussard finished with a combined total of 697.5 kg.



U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Powerlifting Tournament Champions

Outstanding Lifter: Andrew Wimberly

- Men's 75-kg: **William Sever** – Weight Lifted: 440 kg
- Men's 82.5-kg: **Andrew Wimberly** – Weight Lifted: 545 kg
- Men's 100-kg: **Andrew Steele** – Weight Lifted: 470 kg
- Men's 110-kg: **Brian Broussard** – Weight Lifted: 697.5
- Women's 65-kg: **Beth Toops** – Weight Lifted: 232.5 kg

Spring Fling 5 K celebrates fun, fitness, family

Story & photo by Brandon Beach

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart kicked off its Month of the Military Child calendar with the annual Spring Fling Family Fun Run March 31.

Despite a drizzly 10:30 a.m. shotgun start, the race had more than 200 participants who ran, jogged or walked their way along a five-kilometer route that began at Husky Field and continued into the woods adjacent to the Patch Fitness Center.

"It was tough running up the hills in the rain," said nine-year old Max Gelbach, who outpaced the 10-under field with a 27:16 finish.

Afterwards, runners enjoyed a post-race pizza and pasta buffet at the Patch Community Club. Medals were awarded to the top three male and female finishers in six different age categories.

The top male finisher was SK1 Przemek Krynski of Naval Special Warfare Unit Two with an 18:20 finish. Scott Sillimar crossed the line eleven seconds later to earn second place, and Doug Hutcheson rounded out the podium in third.

Kristin Nessel was the top female runner with a 21:47 finish. Jodi Jordan took second place honors, followed by Chateau Venable in third.



For complete race results visit www.mwfirstchoice.com.

Several 'Spring Fling' runners make their way up the last hill March 31. More than 200 participants ran, jogged or walked their way along the five-kilometer route that went into the woods adjacent to the Patch Fitness Center.



Thrill seekers let out a scream as they plunge down the Express, a rollercoaster at Legoland Park in Günzburg.

Legoland entices with thrill rides, hands-on learning

Story & photos by Brandon Beach

Three eight-studded Lego pieces can be put together in 1,560 ways. Imagine if you had more than 50 million of those tiny plastic pieces at hand. Welcome to Legoland Park in Günzburg, Germany, located one hour by car from Stuttgart.

Overshadowed at times by the larger vertical dips and faster hairpin turns found on rollercoasters at Europa Park (near Freiburg) and Holiday Park (near Mannheim), Legoland boasts the same type of thrills for kids and adults, just on a slightly smaller scale.

That scale starts with 1 centimeter by 1 centimeter, or the dimensions of a common Lego brick.

Opened in 2002, the park is a tribute to this tiny interlocking wonder, invented way back in 1949 by Danish carpenter Ole Kirk Christiansen.

Today, the Lego industry manufactures and sells over 20 billion bricks a year, according to the Wikipedia Web site, meaning its just as cool to own a Lego set as it is an iPod.

At the heart of the park is the "Miniland" attraction, which invites visitors to take a stroll through numerous Lego-sized replicas of world landmarks such as the port district of Hamburg, the canals of Venice and the Eiffel Tower in Paris. The craftsmanship is simply amazing.

At the steps of the *Reichstag*, Germany's version of the White House, Lego party people boogie down to pulsing techno music during the Love Parade, an annual street music festival held in Berlin. More than just a Lego display, the site characterizes the universal clash between rigid bureaucracy and free-spirited individualism.

Several years ago, the park unveiled

a miniature version of the Allianz Arena, home to the Bayern Munich soccer club and host of the first game of the 2006 FIFA World Cup.

Lego "engineers" snapped together over 400,000 pieces to construct the stadium. Standing before the model, visitors enter the world of German football, with cheering fans and referee whistles heard over loudspeakers and red flares lighting up in the stands.

Last year, the park unveiled a replica of the Munich airport, with a massive Airbus A380 sitting on one of its numerous runways.

First-time visitors will want to take a leisurely safari ride through the exotic Adventureland, where giraffes, gorillas, crocodiles and elephants spring to life around every corner.

For a hands-on learning experience, the Build and Test Center invites visitors to craft Lego models and test their resistance to natural disasters such as earthquakes of differing magnitude. The results are sure to surprise kids and adults alike.

Just the facts

Located in the sprawling Bavarian countryside, the park situates itself between Stuttgart and Munich.

By car, take Autobahn 8 and exit Günzburg. Trains run frequently on weekends from Stuttgart. For bargain hunters, try the *Schönes Wochenende* ticket at 28 euro to get you to and from the park.

The cost for a day pass is 30 euro for adults and 26 euro for children under 11 years old. A yearly pass runs 59 euro for adults and 49 for children.

The park is open daily 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. The season runs through Nov. 5.

For more information visit www.lego.com.



[Above] Kristian Hernandez takes a photo atop a Lego sculpture.

[Below] One of the park's many cuddly Lego creations.



OUT & ABOUT

Concerts in the Schleyerhalle

With her 2003 hit, "Crazy in Love," and a brand new album "B'Day," five-time Grammy winner Beyoncé makes a stop **May 1**, 8 p.m., in Stuttgart's Schleyerhalle, located on Mercedesstraße 69 (U-Bahn 11 to Gottlieb-Damiller Stadion). Tickets cost 38 to 78,30 euro.

Bringing the sexy back to Stuttgart with his platinum-selling new album, "Future Sex/ Love Sounds," ex-NSYNC heart-throb Justin Timberlake takes to the stage **May 25**, 8 p.m., with his 14-piece band and a non-stop dance ensemble. Tickets cost 47,60 to 75,60.

For more information or to purchase tickets for these and other shows visit www.schleyerhalle.de.

Three Musketeers, the musical

SI Centrum's Palladium Theatre presents the swash-buckling musical smash, "The Three Musketeers."

Tickets range from 40 to 139 euro depending on seating and may be purchased by calling 01805-4444.

The theater is located on Plieningerstraße 100, which is a short 5-minute walk from the main gate on Kelley Barracks.

For more information on dates and times visit the SI Centrum online at www.si-centrum.de.

Fussball in Stuttgart

Catch live Bundesliga action when VfB Stuttgart takes on league rivals FC Bayern Munich **April 20**, 3:30 p.m., in Bad Cannstatt's Gottlieb-Daimler Stadium (S-Bahn Neckarstadion).

For tickets visit www.vfb-stuttgart.de or stop by the stadium's ticket box on game day.

DAZ events in April

Jay Benforado, the director of the National Center for Environmental Innovations at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, will deliver the lecture, "New Approaches to Environmental Problem Solving," **April 20**, 11 a.m., in the Institute Dr. Flad, located on Breitscheidstraße 127. The lecture is part the Deutsch-Amerikanisches Zentrum's Earth Day observance.

Gary Scharnhorst, Ph.D., a Fulbright scholar at the University of Jena, will lead a lecture and discussion on American poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow **April 25**, 7:30 p.m., in the DAZ.

The center is located at Charlottenplatz 17 (U-Bahn 5 or 6). For a complete list of DAZ-sponsored activities visit www.daz.org or call 0711-22-8180.

Spring fest opens at the Wasen

The 69th edition of Stuttgart Frühlingsfest (Spring Festival) opens **April 21** and will continue through May 13.

Held in the Cannstatter Wasen, the fest is one of the largest spring festivals in Europe, with some 1.5 million expected visitors, according to the Stuttgart tourism Web site (www.stuttgart-tourist.de). The extensive Wasen grounds are located in the Bad Cannstatt district, near the Neckar River.

With rollicking fest tents, wild rides, cultural displays and games galore, Frühlingsfest is a popular destination for both family-friendly afternoons and more adult-oriented outings.

For more information about the Cannstatter Frühlingsfest visit www.stuttgarter-fruehlingsfest.de. The festival is open daily 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

The easiest way to get to and from the fest is via public transportation. Take S-Bahn trains 1, 2 or 3 to the Bad Cannstatt stop, which is a short walk to the fest grounds.

Fashion exhibit at IFA

Germany's leading institute on foreign cultural relations is headquartered right here in Stuttgart.

This month, the Institute für Auslandsbeziehungen, or IFA, hosts the exhibit, "Mode Made in Magnolia," a visual journey through the fashion trends of the Orient. The gallery is located on Charlottenplatz 17. To get there, take city train U5 or 6 to the Charlottenplatz stop.

Opening hours are Tuesdays to Fridays, noon to 6 p.m., and weekends, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Additional evening hours are Thursdays until 8 p.m.

For more information visit www.ifa.de. The exhibit is open until **May 27**. Entrance is free.

*April is
Month of the
Military Child*

Friday, April 20
SAS/Middle School
Lock-Ins

- Patch Barracks YS Facility, 7 to 10 p.m.
- We'll take the kids while you take a break!
- For details call 430-8214/civ. 0711-680-8214

Saturday, April 21
Child Safety Seat Day

- Panzer Kaserne (Bldg. 2996), 2 to 4 p.m.
- Free inspections – just bring a vehicle, a seat & a child!
- Let our experts help you keep your family safe.

Friday, April 27
Game Night
& Dessert Fest

- Patch High School Forum, 7 to 9 p.m.
- All community members are invited to celebrate with us!
- For details call 430-8214/civ. 0711-680-8214

Saturday, April 28
America's Kids Run

- Patch Barracks, 8 to 10 a.m.
- End the Month of the Military Child on an energetic note!
- For details call 430-8214/civ. 0711-680-8214

*Celebrate our Military Children
in Stuttgart & Garmisch!*